

Anti-acetylcholine receptor autoantibodies in myasthenia gravis : pathogenicity and specificity related to their structure

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Statements

- 1 VH genes utilized by anti-main immunogenic region monoclonal antibodies made from mice with experimental autoimmune myasthenia gravis are related to mouse PC7183 germline family. Heavy chain complementarity determining region 3 may mainly contribute to the pathogenicity of the antibodies.
This thesis
- 2 Mouse anti- α -bungarotoxin binding site monoclonal antibodies use VH genes belonging to mouse Q52 germline family. Their molecular structures are quite different from those of pathogenic anti-main immunogenic region monoclonal antibodies.
This thesis
- 3 Single chain variable fragment (ScFv637) of antibodies derived from the thymus of a patient with myasthenia gravis can protect acetylcholine receptor from the binding of its parental IgG637, a known pathogenic antibody, and myasthenia gravis antisera. This makes it a valuable candidate for specific immunosuppressive therapy of myasthenia gravis.
This thesis
- 4 Phage display technology is not the only mean to produce human antibodies. Instead, animals transgenic for human immunoglobulin may serve as a more convenient source to generate human antibodies.
- 5 The use of English language in laboratory protocol-writing and daily announcements, besides conferences and academic discussions, will bring the Faculty of Medicine of the University of Maastricht to its desired international status.
- 6 Problem-Based Learning (PBL) and Problem-Oriented Teaching, the educational system currently used in the University of Maastricht could have the major drawback that it has a potency to make some students lazy and inactive in studying.
- 7 It might be a good idea to encourage the unemployed to work and share the social welfare with the employee by the acceptance of a new working system under which each person works and takes holiday by turn.
- 8 A stolen bicycle will not be of any trouble to both police and citizens by using a separable license plate, of which one part is attached to the bicycle, and the other part remains by owner.

"Anti-acetylcholine receptor autoantibodies in myasthenia gravis"
Fanping Meng

10 May 2001, Maastricht, The Netherlands